Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

DO NOT ENTER VBS 6/12/05

1. (Currently amended) A method for alleviating a symptom of a neuropsychiatric disorder, the method comprising a step of administering to a patient with a symptom of a neuropsychiatric disorder a therapeutically effective, non-lethal amount of a Clostridial neurotoxin, wherein the Clostridial neurotoxin is locally administered to ~~neural tissue at an intracranial site~~ a site of the brain within the skull of the patient which is associated with the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder, thereby alleviating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the neurotoxin is made by a bacterium selected from the group consisting of Clostridium botulinum, Clostridium butyricum and Clostridium beratti.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the neurotoxin is a botulinum toxin.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxin types A, B, C_1, D, E, F and G.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 10^{-4} U/kg and about 1 U/kg.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the symptom alleviation persists for between about 1 month and about 5 years.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~neurotoxin is administered to~~ site to which the neurotoxin is administered is a lower brain region.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~neurotoxin is administered to~~ site to which the neurotoxin is administered is a pontine region

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the Clostridial neurotoxin is a recombinantly produced Clostridial neurotoxin thereof.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~intracranial~~ administration step comprises implantation of a botulinum toxin containing controlled release system.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the administration of the neurotoxin alleviates a symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder that is associated with hyperactive neurotransmitter release from neurons.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein administering the Clostridial neurotoxin restores a balance between at least

two neuronal systems that release different neurotransmitters, thereby alleviating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein administering the Clostridial neurotoxin decreases an acetylcholine release from a cholinergic neuron, thereby alleviating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein administering the Clostridial neurotoxin decreases a dopamine release from a dopaminergic neuron, thereby alleviating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein administering of the Clostridial neurotoxin decreases a norepinephrine release from a noradrenergic neuron, thereby alleviating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder.

17. (Currently amended) A method for treating a symptom of a neuropsychiatric disorder, the method comprising a step of administering to a patient with a symptom of a neuropsychiatric disorder a therapeutically effective, non-lethal amount of a botulinum toxin, wherein the botulinum toxin is locally administered to ~~neural tissue at an intracranial site~~ a site of the brain located within the skull of the patient which is associated with the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder, thereby treating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A

schizophrenia a therapeutically effective, non-lethal amount of a botulinum toxin, wherein the botulinum toxin is locally administered to ~~neural tissue at an intracranial site~~ a site of the brain located within the skull of the patient which is associated with a symptom of schizophrenia, thereby treating schizophrenia.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A

23. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the neuropsychiatric disorder is selected from the group consisting of schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, mania, and anxiety.

20. (Currently amended) A method for treating a neuropsychiatric disorder, the method comprising a step of administering to a patient with a symptom of a neuropsychiatric disorder a therapeutically effective, non-lethal amount of a botulinum toxin, wherein the botulinum toxin is locally administered to ~~neural tissue at an intracranial site~~ a site of the brain located within the skull of the patient which is associated with the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder, thereby treating the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder by reducing neurotransmitter release from neurons contributing to the symptom of the neuropsychiatric disorder within about four months after the administration of the botulinum toxin.

21. (Currently amended) A method for treating schizophrenia, the method comprising a step of administering to a patient with schizophrenia a therapeutically effective, non-lethal amount of a botulinum toxin, wherein the botulinum toxin is locally administered to ~~neural tissue at an intracranial site~~ a site of the brain located within the skull of the patient which is associated with a symptom of schizophrenia, thereby treating schizophrenia.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A

23. (Cancelled)